

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-5, 7-8, 10-14, 16-17, 19-23, and 25-26 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 7, 10, 16, 19, and 25 have been amended. Claims 6, 9, 15, 18, 24, and 27 have been cancelled. Reconsideration is respectfully requested. Applicant submits that the pending claims 1-5, 7-8, 10-14, 16-17, 19-23, and 25-26 are patentable over the art of record and allowance is respectfully requested of claims 1-5, 7-8, 10-14, 16-17, 19-23, and 25-26.

Applicant would like to thank Examiner Nguyen for holding a telephone conference with his representative, Janaki K. Davda. During the telephone conference, Examiner Nguyen indicated that incorporating claims 6 and 9 into independent claim 1, incorporating claims 15 and 18 into independent claim 10, and incorporating claims 24 and 27 into independent claim 19 would place all claims in condition for allowance. Applicant has made these amendments and respectfully request allowance of the pending claims 1-5, 7-8, 10-14, 16-17, 19-23, and 25-26.

Claims 6, 15, and 24 were objected to. The claims were incorporated into independent claims 1, 10, and 19, with amendments to overcome the objection.

Claims 1-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Duperrouzel et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,832,355). Applicant respectfully traverses, but, in order to expedite prosecution, Applicant has amended claims 1, 10, and 19 to place the pending claims 1-5, 7-8, 10-14, 16-17, 19-23, and 25-26 in condition for allowance. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that the rejection is moot.

Conclusion

For all the above reasons, Applicant submits that the pending claims 1-5, 7-8, 10-14, 16-17, 19-23, and 25-26 are patentable over the art of record. Applicant has not added any claims. Nonetheless, should any additional fees be required, please charge Deposit Account No. 09-0466.

The attorney of record invites the Examiner to contact her at (310) 553-7973 if the Examiner believes such contact would advance the prosecution of the case.

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